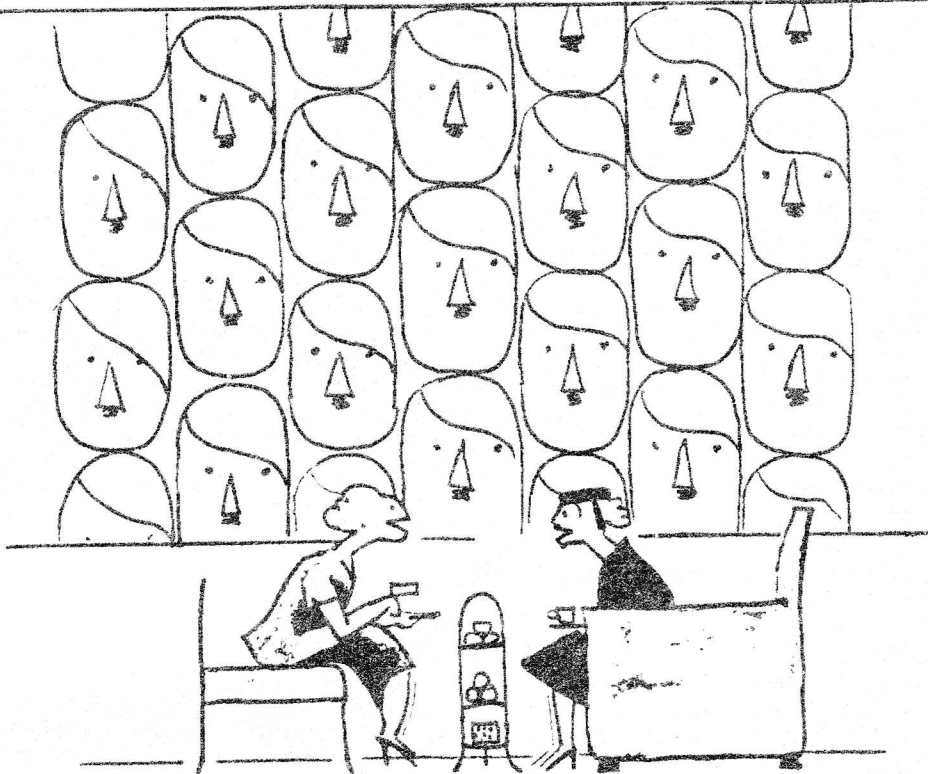


SHELTHORPE DIAMOND JUBILEE SCRAPBOOK 1933- 1993



Don't forget that
walls
have ears!

CARELESS TALK
COSTS LIVES

CUTTINGS FROM SHELTHORPE
GAZETTE AND OTHER MEMORIES

Shelthorpe School 1933 - 1993

On June 1st 1993 Shelthorpe School will be 60 years old. To mark this special occasion Diamond Jubilee Celebrations will be taking place at the beginning of June.

An important part of the celebrations will be the commemoration of the club room in memory of the late Wallace Humphrey. This room will be named the "Wallace Humphrey Community Room" to recognise the valuable contribution made by this popular ex-headteacher to the development of the school and community centre over a period of 21 years loyal service.

The present Shelthorpe Primary School was formed as the result of the amalgamation of the original separate Infant and Junior Schools. Over the next few editions of the Gazette it seems appropriate that we should review the history of the two schools prior to the amalgamation in 1981 and its continuing growth since then. It would be interesting

to hear from ex-pupils who might be able to contribute useful information for publication. Probably the best source of factual information is the log book for each school. Headteachers are required to keep a log book which gives details of the day-to-day running of a school. It would therefore be pertinent to use some of the first entries in the Infant and Junior log books as the starting point for plotting the history of the present establishment.

Shelthorpe County Infants' School, Loughborough June 1st 1933

This school was opened today in the presence of The School Attendance Officer, Mr. J. Turner, Assistant Mistress, Miss L. O. Akhurst and Head Mistress, Miss D. M. Hallam. 50 children were admitted. Visitors during the day were; B. B. Barrow Esq., J.P., C. H. Harris Esq., Education Secretary and Miss J. Widdowson, School Nurse.

January 25th 1934

School temperature at 9.00am - Hall 42°F, Classroom 46°F.

Shelthorpe Junior Mixed School, Loughborough 26th August 1939

The Shelthorpe Junior Mixed School was opened today. The accommodation of 250 was immediately filled, and it was impossible to admit between 30 and 40 other local children. The following staff

attended Headmaster, Mr. T. S. Fielding, 4th Year, Miss C. E. Levers, 3rd Year, Mr. F. Holmes, 2nd Year, Mr. J. White, 1st Year A, Miss E. Giles, 1st Year B, Miss M. Barker, Special Class, Mrs. E. Welch.
31st August 1939

The school was closed at dinnertime today owing to the National Emergency, and the need of immediate preparation for the reception of the Sheffield evacuees tomorrow.

18th September 1939

School re-opened. Admitted 72 Sheffield evacuees and 34 others.

29th September 1939

A full evacuation of the school to the trenches took place this afternoon.

It can be seen from the early entries in the log books that both schools made an interesting start. The Infant School having to work in temperatures which would perhaps not be acceptable nowadays and the Junior School having to cope with the prospect of war-time raids.

Even so both Headteachers were undaunted and went on to serve at the schools for many more years. Miss Hallam continued in her position from 1933 until 1954 whilst Tom Fielding managed an extra year with his 22 years of service lasting from 1939 to 1961.

Any memories you might have of the schools during these periods would be gratefully received.
Editor.

You may remember that I had the privilege of writing the 'Old Shelthorpe' column in the December Gazette before Ernie Miller took over. In that article I dealt briefly with the opening of Shelthorpe Junior Mixed School in August 1939 and the immediate onset of war. My information was drawn from the school log book of the time. Within that edition of the Gazette I made mention also of the evacuees who joined Shelthorpe School from various parts of the country, including Ipswich.

This brings me to the point of this supplement, for, a few weeks ago I was very pleased to receive a letter from one of the teachers who accompanied those evacuee children from Ipswich. My thanks to that

teacher, Mrs C. Preston (who now lives in Bristol), for taking the trouble to write to me in such detail. I have decided to publish in its entirety the latter part of this most interesting letter which reads as follows:

"One day another teacher and I were told to go to the Midlands to leave our evacuees we were accompanying in Nottingham and to go on to Loughborough to remain there indefinitely to help the much pressed local teachers coping with floods of evacuees. Our nerves no doubt were beginning to feel the strain of those days. For I remember how on that journey, the poor frightened children never once spoke and in the general panicky atmosphere it never occurred to us to make light of the situation. We only knew we were going into *the unknown*.

But we were reassured at Nottingham and at Loughborough. We were met by Mr Auty, the billeting officer, and he took us to a house on Leicester Road, where we were warmly welcomed.

I was sent to join the staff of Shelthorpe School. The Headmistress was Miss Hallam, whom I remember as a kind and dedicated gifted teacher. I remember at Easter time when Miss Hallam was concerned that so many of her staff were going home for the holidays to danger areas: London, Ipswich, Birmingham, Sheffield and Swansea, and said "I am so afraid that you will not all come back." We didn't, the London teacher who had gone back to visit her crippled brother left behind, did not come back.

Gradually, the Ipswich evacuees trickled back home and I returned to my home the following year. My teaching days at Shelthorpe were some of the happiest I have known and my billet was a home-from-home." C.C. Preston.

Thank you once more to Mrs Preston for her most informative letter. I will continue to include snippets from any interesting correspondence received in future editions of the Gazette.

Editor.

Old Shelthorpe

We would be pleased to hear from any local historian who would be willing to write a regular (or occasional) article for the Gazette. Failing this, the editor will do his best to plot the development of Shelthorpe into its present position as an important sub-centre of Loughborough. Any old photographs of the area, or any information would greatly assist him in this task.

It is probably quite appropriate to get this column off the ground by using the oldest school log book available as the main source of information. The one I have at hand is the old Shelthorpe Junior Mixed School Log Book dating back to 28th August 1939. Shelthorpe Junior School was opened on this particular date — just three days before World War II began.

Can children starting at a new school for the very first time ever have experienced such a traumatic introduction as these youngsters of 1939? In order to try and understand how they might have felt, I will quote from selected early pages from that first log book:

28th August 1939. The Shelthorpe Junior Mixed School was opened today. The accommodation of 250 was immediately filled and it was found impossible to admit between 30 and 40 other local children. The following staff attended:
 Headmaster: Mr. T.S. Fielding
 4th Year: Miss C.E. Levers
 3rd Year: Mr. T. Holmes
 2nd Year: Mr. T. White
 1st Year A: Miss E. Giles
 1st Year B: Miss M. Barker
 Special Class: Mrs E. Welch

31st August: The school was closed at dinner time today owing to the National Emergency and the need of immediate preparation for the reception of the Sheffield evacuees tomorrow, 1st Sept, at 10.00 a.m.

18th September: re-opened. Admitted 72 Sheffield evacuees and 34 others. Misses Brown and Breckin of Sheffield L.E.A. attached to staff.

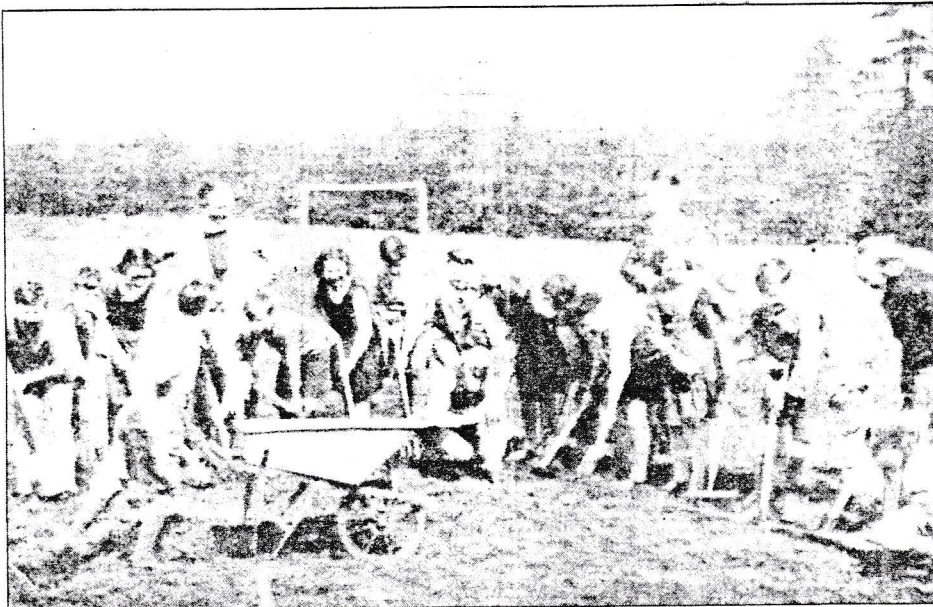
29th September: A full evacuation of the school to the trenches took place this afternoon.

19th January, 1940: White terminates his appointment here today for war service.

17th May: Some 500 parents and friends inspected the Air Raid Shelter provided for the children of this school.

28th August: Morning session at 10.00 a.m. owing to Air Raid alarm during night.

19th September: School closed to



Group of boys and girls at Shelthorpe School busy in their own half acre of school gardens. They are being superintended by the headmaster, Mr. T.S. Fielding, and Mr. F. Holmes, one of the teachers. It is interesting to note that last year these schoolchildren sent to the hospital a large amount of foodstuffs grown in the precincts of their school.

enable Ipswich evacuees to be billeted.

11th October: School closed during the afternoon to allow billeting of London evacuees.

4th November: On books: Loughborough 317; Ipswich 13; Sheffield 4; London 51.

2nd December: Every conceivable corner of the school has been taken over by College Road School (evacuees), Birmingham, upwards of 200 more children being in attendance.

March 14th, 1941: Respirators were tested by A.R.P. Wardens who gave the necessary instructions to those who carried faulty ones.

17th September: Children of the Fourth Year Class proceeded during the afternoon session to gather blackberries under the Government scheme of fruit preservation.

15th March 1942: All children interested were invited to listen to a talk on "Rabbit keeping for the nation's larder". About 200 children attended."

Before I get any complaints from pet-lovers I will draw this month's article to a close! I would be pleased to hear from anybody who attended the school during this period so that I can include their personal observations in the February "Old Shelthorpe" column.



I must make mention of our last 'Happy Memories' photograph which featured Father Christmas and many others. The information received suggests that the photo was of the Shelthorpe Nursery School party and was taken in 1943, 44 or 45. Thanks to Jean McLoughlin and Mr Curd for supplying me with a few of the names of those present at the party.

Those named are Joyce — (2nd adult from left), Mr. Routledge (adult far right) plus the following children: Florence Adcock (far left); Jean McLoughlin (3rd from left back row); David Webster (5th from left, back row); Sandra Mills (7th from left, back row) and Jean Thorpe (2nd from right, back row).

MEMORIES OF AN OLD BOY

John Riley 1941 to 1947.

For me it was short trousers, grey socks, black laced up shoes and very short cut hair. Well, nothing unusual in that!

Slung over one shoulder was a piece of strong string, at the end of which was a tin mug. This was to drink my milk from at break time. On the other side was my gas mask. No, it wasn't there because I sat next to somebody with smelly feet. It was because at any time the Germans could have flown over and dropped bombs on Loughborough. This was the time of World War Two.

Sometimes we had to practice wearing our masks. To me this was worse than being bombed. The thing smelt horribly of rubber and I felt that I couldn't breathe when it was on.

As far as I know no bombs were ever dropped on Loughborough but I did see an air raid over Coventry one night. In those days there were no street lights shining as now and all windows had to be covered with light proof material so that enemy planes could see nothing below. With my parents I was walking home along Park Road. Because of the lack of lighting the stars shone very brightly in a sky darker than you ever see now. Thirty five miles away the fires and searchlights over Coventry shone as if there was a big bonfire burning. Next morning we heard that that was only too terribly true.

I have two clear memories that bring back the war years. On our living room wall we had a big map of Europe. In this we stuck pins onto which we had attached flags - Union Jacks, the Russian Hammer and Sickle and the Swastika. As the wireless reported the advance of the Allied armies so we moved the pins to show Hitler being squeezed into ever smaller territory.

When the war ended down came the map to reveal a wall that looked as if had been bombed there were so many pin holes in it.

You've probably heard of or had a street party but never as good a one as we had when war ended in Europe and we celebrated VE Day.

It was the usual tables down the road and cakes and drinks and games but, as night came on, we had such a huge bonfire in the cul de sac - I lived in Turner Avenue - that I think they could have seen it burning as far as Berlin. It melted all the tarmac on the road.

We were really looking forward to the same thing on VJ Day but a policeman came round and said NO! Winning the war was one thing but burning up all the road surfaces was quite another and the council decided against.

Winters were colder then. Probably it was only a few days really but the milk always seemed to be frozen in the bottles. Most of break time seemed to be spent thawing it out. You try sucking slushy ice up through a straw.

One winter - it must have been 1946/47 - there was so much snow that the council, when they finally could clear the roads, had to dump the snow in various empty spaces where it took weeks for it to melt. Our dump was at the end of Herrick Road, in front of the allotments. We played castles on the mounds for weeks.

TOM FIELDING MEMORIAL GARDEN

As previewed in the April Gazette the Official Opening of the Tom Fielding Memorial Garden duly took place on Thursday May 14th. Although the weather was not as kind as it might have been, well over 100 guests were present to see the Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire, Col. Martin, officially open the Garden by switching on the fountain within the pond. A vote of thanks to Col. Martin was given by Councillor Bob Weston, Mayor of Charnwood.

We have received a couple of letters concerning the old photograph of Tom Fielding and others which appeared in our last issue. One was from Mr F.R. Levers of Farndale Drive who pointed

out that the lady we called Miss Gibbs was in fact Miss Giles who incidently (he tells us) cycled daily from Walton on the Wolds.

J. Mary Williams (nee Mitchell) wrote to me from Stafford and was able to supply the names of all the teachers featured (l to r): Mr Holmes; Mrs Gray; Mrs Welch; Miss Giles; Miss Cranmer; Miss Barker; Miss Levers; Mr Fielding. She is also adamant that the photograph was taken in 1942 and not 1945 as we had originally thought.

It is interesting to think that Mr Levers (a nephew of Miss Levers on our photo) who attended Shelthorpe School from 1936 to 1942 and Mary Williams who was a pupil from 1936 to 1943 may well have been in the same class at some stage during that time.

I think it is fitting to conclude this article with an extract from the letter received from Mary Williams as she remembers the Junior School's first Headmaster affectionately.

I quote directly from her letter, "I remember the Junior Dept., being built and Mr Fielding taking up his post as Headmaster in 1939. It was a very happy school and Mr Fielding was well liked and respected. He was always interested in young people and, apart from school work, he devoted much of his time to their interests and well-being".

Footnote: Tom Fielding's successor as headteacher of Shelthorpe Junior School was Wally Humphrey who held the position from 1961 until he retired in 1982.

Congratulations to Mr Humphrey who has just gained a PhD at Loughborough University and will officially become Dr Humphrey following the next degree ceremony.



The Tom Fielding Memorial Garden

We reported in the February Gazette that work had begun on the Tom Fielding Memorial Garden.

Tom Fielding was Headmaster of Shelthorpe Junior School for its first 22 years (1939-1961). I am pleased to report that the Garden is now nearing completion and that the Official Opening will take place on Thursday May 14th at 5.30pm. Everyone welcome.

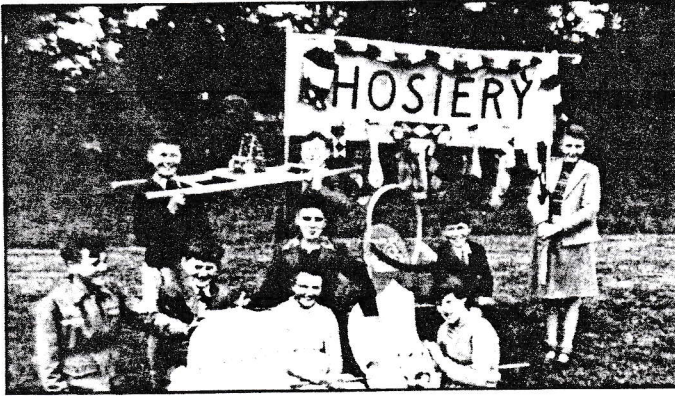
Interestingly enough Mrs. P. Merriman has lent us a photograph (taken in 1945) which shows Tom Fielding in the quadrangle where the new Memorial Garden is being constructed. Mrs Merriman names the teachers featured as (l to r): Mr Holmes, Mrs Gray, —, Miss Gibbs, —, Miss Barker, Miss Levers, Mr Fielding.

Frank Holmes

It is with great sadness that we inform our readers of the death of Frank Holmes. Frank, who died at the end of last year, was a well respected and well liked member of the Shelthorpe Junior School staff during the 'forties and 'fifties. He retired from teaching on April 28th 1961 after serving the school loyally for over 21 years.



Thanks to Peter Merriman for putting names to the majority of faces featured in the February Gazette. With 46 children (we forget how big classes used to be) in that class of 1953 it is perhaps not surprising that one or two faces remain unidentified. The names we have read as follows: back row, left to right: A. Dawson, —, K. Springthorpe, A. Tracey, T. Wright, R. Lacey, —, T. Hallam, —, G. Middleton, G. Bowler, P. Tomkins. Third row: —, K. Stringfellow, K. Stafford, —, —, —, T. Trivett, A. Black, N. Matlock. The teacher on the right was Mrs Grey and the two small boys standing with her M. Butler and C. Woodroff. On the second row from the front: P. Walker, E. Walton, ? Statham, ? Statham, —, —, K. Campbell, D. Jardine, —, V. Trivett, —, —, L. Gibson, —. Front row: J. Woods, E. Bird, S. Wooton, M. Laine, —, —, —, A. McCabe.



Standing (l to r): Martyn Mills, Timothy Harris and Marlene Doyle. Sitting: Keith Wells, Martin Baum, Geoffrey Stamatakis, Pat Chapman, Rita Hallam and Richard Holland.

The picture evoked happy memories for a number of our readers, some of whom seem to live many miles beyond our circulation area!

The general concensus of opinion from the correspondence I received indicates that the photograph was of a group of children representing local industries, such as Newbold & Burton Shoes; Taylor's Bell Foundry; Morris Cranes and Towles Hosiery, at an exhibition at the De Montfort Hall, Leicester, in 1953 (or possibly 54 or 55). With one or two exceptions there is agreement that the names listed above the photograph are correct.

Martyn Mills' father contacted me to let us know that his son now lives in Blackpool where he runs an hotel. I also received a lovely letter from Rita Gower (nee Hallam) who managed to get hold of a Gazette in Long Whatton. She remembers fondly her education at Shelthorpe School between 1949 and 1955 and in particular the teachers at the time, including Mrs Gray, Mr Holmes, Mr Sykes, Miss Clements (who later became Mrs Hemstock), and Miss Page who married Mr Frances. Happy memories!

Once again, many thanks to Pat Page (nee Chapman) for lending us the photograph.

Carol Mac (nee Clarke) of Hinckley sent me a very interesting letter about her memories of Shelthorpe School between 1948 and 1954 (I wonder if she knew Rita Hallam whose letter I mentioned earlier?). Mrs Mac recalls many names and incidents which I will relate to you by quoting a few paragraphs direct from her letter: "How interesting to read your issues 2,3,4 of Shelthorpe Gazette recently and especially the references to Tom Fielding and his staff."

"It was Miss Barker that you went with your bumps, cuts and bruises to duly receive treatment from out of a bottle of diluted Dettol, or iodine; her friend, Miss Giles, would often pass us on her 'sit up and beg' bicycle, having cycled from Walton on the Wolds."

"Tom Fielding had a great love of animals, and gardening. There were goats, rabbits and hens kept at the school, and a large vegetable patch was tended by the school children in turn, who learnt to weed and hoe and look after the animals."

"The last two years were spent with Mr Holmes, who drilled us each morning in times tables (I can still run through them now at break-neck speed), and was determined that we should all do well, especially in the 11+. I think there may have been a little rivalry between our class and next door, which I think was Miss Levers', to see who gained the higher percentage of passes.

Although we were encouraged to work hard and play well, it was under such a pleasant atmosphere that you did not realise it. But I do know that I was very fortunate to have been educated at such a marvellous school and to have benefited from Tom Fielding's guidance."

"PS: I was very fortunate to be allowed to go up to Shelthorpe House and play round the old stables as a child, and when it was occupied by Miss Donna Hole, and her mother, and to see her horses."

Mrs Mac goes on to say that she has made a number of attempts to locate the present whereabouts of Miss Hole (mentioned in her letter, and probably in her 70s/80s by now), but to date has been unsuccessful. If anyone can throw any light on Miss Hole's movements since she moved, prior to the demolition of Shelthorpe House, then please let us know.

Thanks to Jeffrey Stamatakis for his letter (received recently) which takes us back to our June 'Happy Memories' photograph. He confirms that the photo was of a group of Shelthorpe children

representing various aspects of Loughborough industry at Coronation celebrations held at De Montfort Hall. Jeffrey (apologies for printing Geoffrey alongside the photograph) now works as a Consultant Surgeon in South Wales. It just goes to show that the Shelthorpe Gazette reaches parts (eventually) that other newsletters cannot reach!!



Thanks to Bob Smallman for the loan of the photograph featured in the last issue of the Gazette. He was able to name most of that football team of 1952. They were as follows: teachers: Mr Dixon (left) and Mr Holmes (right); back row (l to r): Keith Smith, Derek Howard, Terry Tripp, —, front row: —, Neil Clarke, Vernon Cundell, Denis Telfer, Bob Smallman, Dave Kirton, Michael Court.



My request in the December Gazette for information re: Priory Prose (or is it Pose) and Priory Pardon was answered by a number of readers. Thanks to Carol Mac, Margaret Stone, Mrs Phillips and Mr Tomlinson for informing me that the characters in question were in fact goats. Mr Tomlinson was kind enough to send me a photograph (above) of one of the aforementioned goats (which one I wonder?) being looked after by his daughter Jean, and Christine Roberts.

Margaret Stone in a letter full of many memories gives us an insight into her days at Shelthorpe School including the following glimpses into the past:

"I remember Priory Pardon and Priory Pose, the two school goats, and their two kids, Orange and Lemon. In my last school year at Shelthorpe (54-55) I was in Mr Sykes' class, and on weekdays shortly before the morning break it was my job to check the milk yield. It didn't take me long to realise that if I busied myself petting, fussing or even milking the goats I would miss the dreaded time before break — sums! And how dumb-founded I was when just as quickly Mr Sykes realised what I was up to. From then on the milk yields were noted at break or lunch time.

I remember the sporadic dashes of first and second years who had not only been dared, but double dared to touch the cemetery wall and run away quick before the ghost caught you. We lofty third and fourth years sat perched on the verandah of 'the cricket hut' pretending we weren't scared, but it was just too hot to run! Why oh why did the best daisies for daisy chains grow near that wall."

It was nice to receive another letter from Carol Mac who on this occasion not only tells of the goats and rabbits but also of a framed saying which hung in the school. It read "Manners Maketh Man" and was apparently used as a reminder to the children to mind their P's and Q's.

Old Shelthorpe

After an absence of nearly a year, the popular 'Old Shelthorpe' column returns to the Gazette this month. We are indebted to Dell Elliott for his vivid memories of the Shelthorpe he knew when he was a lad. Editor.

"September 1954, five years old and the first day at school. We waited with our parents at the bus stop on the corner of Park Road and Broadway; in those days children from the top end of Shelthorpe were bused down to Lodge Farm Infants.

What awaited us?

A peg, a desk, semolina pudding and a teacher with a tight perm.

Happy days, space to play in and traffic free roads (one car a day if you were lucky — to disturb a game of tennis in the road — a piece of string from the lamp-post to a hedge for a net). When your dads came home from work they'd get off their bikes to duck under the net so that you could carry on playing. The only break in play was when the hokey cokey man came round on his three wheeler, cornet or wafer your only choice.

At the age of seven you joined the 'other lot' at Shelthorpe Juniors. Strange children — two streets away and another world.

Going to school meant setting off early, 8.30 for a 9.00 o'clock start. Marbles played along a series of well-defined holes took you as far as the shops. The penny tray, Dandy, Beano or Bunty, took an age to select. Thruppence was a lot to spend, maybe a tanner at weekends. On to the playground and swaps for Gallagher cigarette cards — ten ordinaries for one Gallagher — then inside for a new peg, desk and another dose of semolina pudding, with a dollop of jam, stirred until pink! You'd never see it nowadays. A generation was raised on it and swore that they would never let their children 'suffer' in the same way.

The social year used to centre around three events. The circus came first; set up as usual on the 'recky'. Coco and the other clowns toured Shelthorpe, meeting the children, a noisy entourage venturing into other streets not normally visited. When the show started, entry could be attained by crawling under the tarpaulin, provided you avoided the boot that reached the parts best sat on.

Shelthorpe had its own fair, usually in late summer, again on the 'recky' but later moved to what is now the Bull's Head car park. Not a large affair, but Shelthorpe's own. An appetizer for the annual fair in the town's centre and tickets from the Mayor for three free rides.

Winter brought sledging from the top of Beacon Road through the opened gates and down into Pignut Spinney, where the summer's bows and arrows had been cut from the abundance of willow trees. Occasional ventures took us across the seven stiles, past echo corner to Hanging Rocks.

By the way, where is the brook now? Concrete covered?"

With forty-plus children on this relatively recent (1958) photograph I expected to receive a great deal of information about names, date etc. This was not the case, as only one correspondent actually put pen to paper and this sole letter actually winged its way from the other side of the world. My sincere thanks to Gwyneth Barradell (nee Isaac), who wrote to me from Perth, Australia, naming practically everyone on the photograph. The details she gives are as follows:



Front row, kneeling, left to right: Gwyneth Isaac, Delise Slater, Geraldine Lucas, Marina Burford, Susan Clarke, Pamela Bartlett, Kathleen Miller. Second row: Jean Bishop, Valerie Sutton, Michael Hill, Gregory Hutton, —, Keith Hague, John Wainwright, Patricia Cockerill, Mary Nourish. Third row: Barry Davie, Brian Jones, Mavis Reavell, Suzanne Knight, Patricia Stone, Sheila Wass, Janet Hall, Judith —, Mary Clarke, Maureen Clarke, Joan Offiller, Pauline Atkinson, Christine Burden, —. Back row: Douglas Wilson, Clifford Collins, Lesley Thurman, Brian Bonser, —, Tim Tyler, —, —, Mary Woods, —, —, David Isaac, Barry Smith.

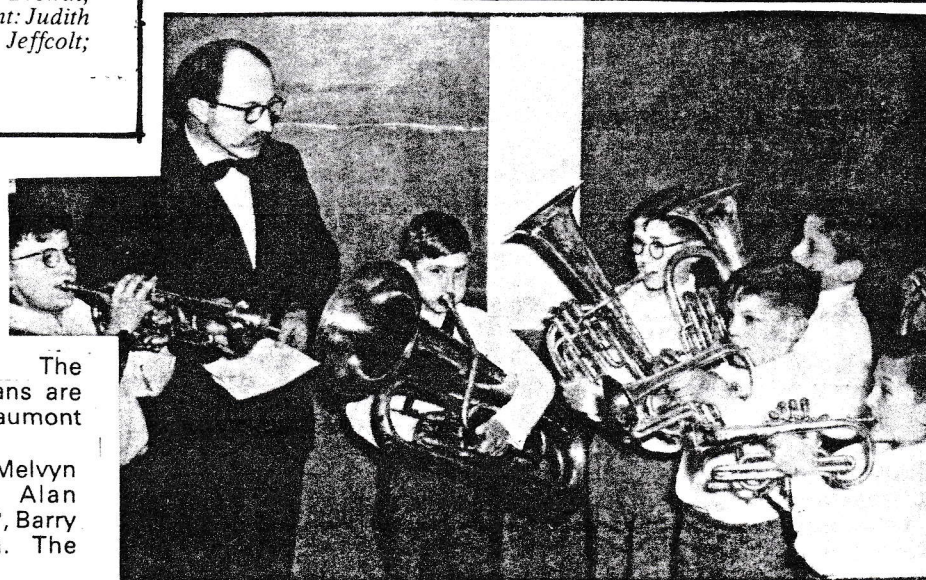


Two of the ladies featured on the October photograph have contacted me to give details. They informed me that the photograph is of the Shelthorpe Infant School staff, and was taken in 1953 or 1954. My thanks go to Clare Winson and Daphne Geary (nee Ling) for supplying me with names of the teachers as follows: *Back row (l to r) Mrs Peach, Miss Winson, Miss Greaves (later Mrs Woodstock), Mrs Gray, Mrs Bishop. Front row: Miss Fletcher, Miss Ling (later Mrs Geary).*



Thanks to Margaret Burns (nee Brewin) and Diane Swarbrook (nee Gower) for naming all of the Shelthorpe School swimming team of 1954 who were featured

in the April Gazette. They were as follows: *Back row (l to r) Sandy Holden; Martin Mills; Brian Sharman; Margaret Brewin, David Reid; -; David Shipton. Front: Judith Miller; Diane Gower; Michael Jeffcott; Marion Carr; Marion Hall.*



The names of the budding musicians are supplied by Mrs Sutton of Beaumont Road and are as follows:

(left to right): Edwin Sutton; Melvyn Stenvenson, Jack Creaser, Alan Willoughby, Terry James, Terry?, Barry Davis and Stephen Shipton. The photograph was taken in 1956.

I am pleased to say that the mystery of the photograph has been solved thanks to letters from Doretta Rhodes and Dianne Haywood (nee Naylor) who still live in Loughborough and from Carol Simpson (nee Andrews) who now lives in California (USA). All three have fond memories of their time at Shelthorpe School and they confirm that the photograph was taken at Sports Day in June 1968. It features Mrs Montgomery's Class 2M.

Before I list the names of the children (as supplied by the ex-classmembers) I would like to print part of Carol Simpson's letter.

"My father sent the cutting to me and I was so excited to see it! By the way, Mrs. Montgomery was a wonderful teacher, and I still remember all the songs she taught us, and I sing them to my own children now!! I have been living in California for 11 years now. I wonder what became of any other "2M" children?!"

The children in Class 2M in 1968 and featured in the photograph were:-



Back row (left to right):-

Mrs. Montgomery, Peter Hampton, Diane Clark, Susan Madon, Doretta Rhodes, Julie Hodgkinson, Carol Andrews (me!!), Jean Ball, Victor Adlard, Christopher Hall, Steven Mulford, Kerry Dyson.

Front row (left to right)

Martin Kirkby, Steven Phillips, Derek Hickling, Yvonne Harper, Patricia Adcock, Judith Smith, Alex Grey, David Pervin, Shaun Widdowson, David Hills, Diane Naylor, Margaret Selby and Julie Bonser.

The photograph in the December issue of Class 2M in 1968 certainly brought back happy memories to me. I was the teacher, and that group of children was a very small class of 24 (in those days we rarely taught classes of fewer than 40). Because of overcrowding in the school it was decided to use the small room upstairs, now the community warden's room, next to Mr. Humphrey's office. It was very cramped. We found 12 old-fashioned double desks with lift up seats attached - they fitted into the room with just a narrow gangway down the middle leaving enough space for a teacher's high desk and a blackboard and easel. Once the children were in their desks there they stayed! Lessons were of the traditional 'chalk and talk' variety (we all thrived on it) but we managed to incorporate a great deal of joy into our days. We sang a great deal and had hilarious drama sessions making up no-action radio plays. It was one of the happiest years of my teaching career; we were a very close group and I think we would all have liked to spend another year in our temporary confinement!

My best wishes to any of those 24 "children" reading this - I would love to hear from you.

Yours sincerely,

Kate Glover (formerly Montgomery)

EXTENDED COMMUNITY CENTRE IS NOW 'FINEST IN COUNTY'

SATURDAY was a big day in the lives of people living in the Shelthorpe district of Loughborough, for their long awaited community centre extension was officially opened.

Shelthorpe Community Centre, which is run in conjunction with the County Primary School in this part of Loughborough, is now the largest in Leicestershire.

This was stated by the Director of Education (Mr. Andrew Fairbairn), when he opened an extension, called, for want of a better name, the Club Room, principally for adult use, on Saturday.

The Community Centre, with Mr. W. Humphrey, Headmaster of the Junior School, as Warden, has now been running for several years and carries out a useful role in community education and in supplying other needs in the area.

Already there are many affiliated societies and a wide variety of adult classes and plans are in hand, with Mrs. Hilary Cramer as part-time Community Worker, to expand present activities substantially.

The opening ceremony took place in the school hall, where two members, Mrs. B. Tooley and Mrs. K. Roberts, had arranged flowers, with Mr. R. Jackson (Community Council chairman), presiding.

Others present included the Mayor and Mayoress of Charnwood (Councillor and Mrs. L. G. Duncan), Mrs. Fairbairn and Dr. A. M. Duncan, chairman of the school managers, who gave everyone a welcome.

Mr. Humphrey said the decision to build the room was made in June 1970 and the total cost was £12,500, of which the County Council was providing £8,000. The balance had all been raised locally, in fact there would be money remaining after the bill was paid.

Hand-in-hand with the Club Room scheme was the erection of a special education unit for junior children. This is designed for 20 children and is already in use. This cost £20,000, which is being met by the County Council.

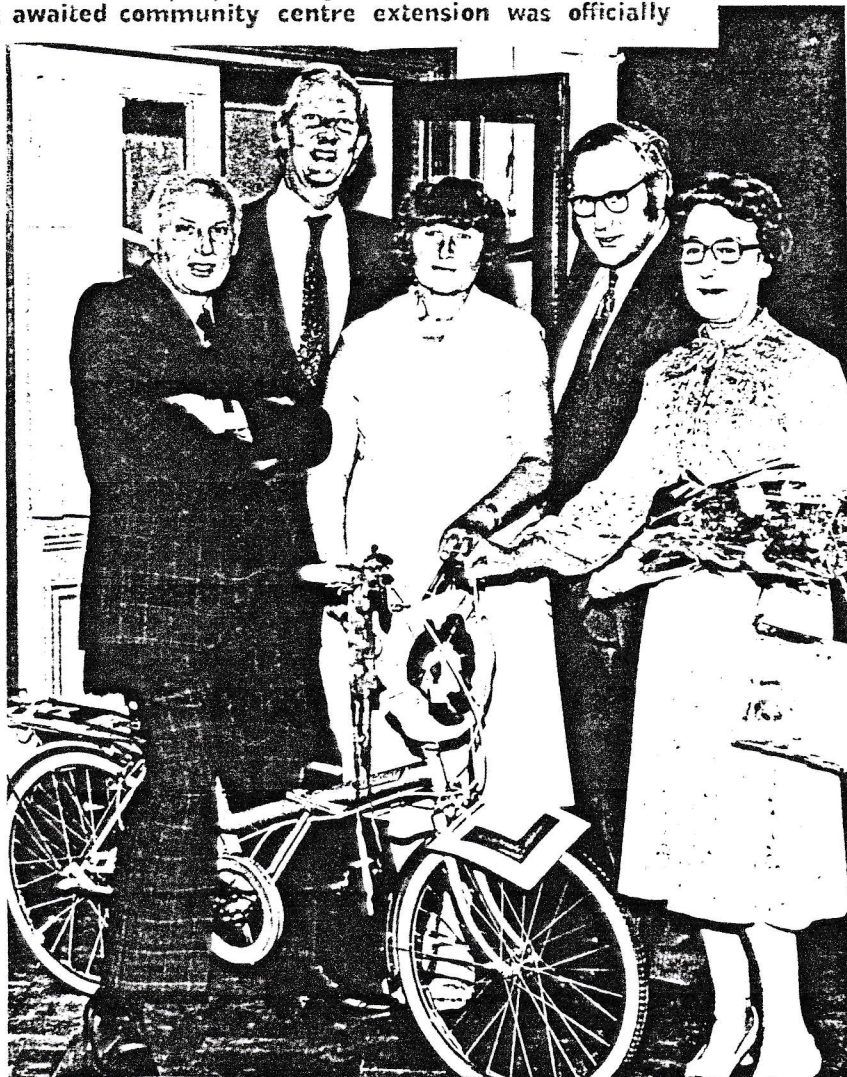
Mr. Humphrey said the Club Room could be sub-divided if required. Whilst the fund-raising was in progress there had been a widening of the community involvement to such an extent which could not have been foreseen five years ago.

Until the financial cuts the Evening Centre at Shelthorpe was accepting over 800 student enrolments each year and they had 23 affiliated societies.

"The School now has a real chance of bringing together the two worlds in which we force children to live—the world of the community, which they regard as real, and the world of the school, which many of them, and many of their parents, do not regard as real. We can now pursue the doctrine of 'one world'.

"Because of our playgroup our youngest pupil is aged three years, and because of our Evening Centre our oldest is 92, and she is here today. We can, in different ways, provide a continuous education service from one end of life to the other."

25/10/75



Wally receiving retirement gifts in 1982. Others in the picture are (l to r):- Andrew Fairbairn (Director of Education), Barbara Carr (Deputy Head), Dr. Alistair Duncan and Doris Humphrey.

WALLACE HUMPHREY (1921 - 1992)

It is very sad to report the death of Wallace Humphrey. Wally became Headteacher of Shelthorpe Junior School in 1961 (later to become Shelthorpe Primary School) and served the Community of Shelthorpe for 21 years.

He was, as many local residents know, the first Warden of Shelthorpe Community Centre. Before 1970 the school had evening classes only but Wally saw the positive advantages of giving the Centre a broader Community dimension. From 1970 (as Warden) through his tireless effort and quiet leadership along with support from parents and local people a Community wing or "Club Room" became a reality. This was opened in 1975 and by then the original 9 affiliated organisations had grown to over 20. The present Community Centre with 60 groups, adult education classes, community ventures and activities is a lasting monument to Wally's foresight and endeavour.

Our sympathies go to his wife Doris and his family.



Our last Shelthorpe Gazette featured a group of young cricketers one of whom Martyn Gidley has recently won himself a place in the Leicestershire County 1st Team.

June 1979 Shelthorpe Junior School

Loughborough Primary School Cricket Cup Finalists

Back row: Mr. S. Mitchell, Lee Chamberlain (sub),
Tim Phillips, Paul Robinson, Mr. T. Walker.

Front row: Martin Derby, Martyn Gidley, Chris Barker, Neil Chadburn.



29/1/1983

● Belinda and Ken Howard sample some of the books at the opening of the Irene Howard Library at Shelthorpe School watched by some of the children.

SHELTHORPE SCHOOL staff and children will have a permanent reminder of a recently lost 'friend'.

For their new library, opened on Friday, has been dedicated to the memory of Mrs. Irene Howard, whose premature death nearly two years ago saddened everyone connected with the school.

Her long association with the school started as a parent and widened to include school and community alike with her work as dinner supervisor, cleaner, ancillary and clerical assistant.

It was fitting that the Irene Howard Library was opened by her husband, Mr. Ken Howard in a ceremony witnessed by the children and many invited guests.

The opening ended the school's long-term library mission. After a number of years of struggling to provide this facility, it was largely made possible by the generosity of Leicestershire County Council and the school's own Parent Teacher Association, which raised £2,000 through fund-raising activities.

Plenty to smile about



SHELTHORPE Primary School cross country team, pictured, having plenty to smile about, for they are the 1987-88 Leicestershire Primary Schools cross country champions, taking the title for the second year running.

They captured the trophy following a series of four races held in Leicester — two at Braunstone Park and two at Western Park, the Team winning three of the four races.

Pictured with the trophy, clockwise from bottom left, are, Clare Batty, Donna Dawes, Celia Ukairo, Leanne Smith, Sarah Hill, Leanne Symons and Kerry Evans.



TWO Shelthorpe pupils weighed up a 'hot potato' of a problem — and won a trophy for their trouble.

Gemma Ball (7) and Laura Dickens (6), of Shelthorpe Primary School, were set the tricky task of 'how a blind person would weigh a potato' in the Leicestershire Schools' Technology Challenge.

And their solution took first prize in the final at British Gas East Mid-

Weighty problem solved

lands' Customer Service Centre, Leicester, in the five to seven years category.

Gemma (left) and Laura are pictured with their awards — and their elegantly engineered solution to the problem.



SHELTHORPE nursery children will be able to sample life in the classroom from September when they join the new four-plus unit at the school.

Pictured at the official ceremony to open the unit are Mr. Noel Jones, headmaster of Shelthorpe School, and the Mayor of Charnwood, Coun. Alastair Duncan.

Mr. Jones said that the pre-school class had been funded by the county council in a bid to provide nursery care in the area.

Three teachers and two nursery nurses have been employed to care for 60 children who will be joining the school at the beginning of next term.

One of the teachers, Mrs. Chris Harries, said: "The class will be divided into groups and they will study through play.

"We aim to teach them the basics before they join the other classes, such as colours, numbers, and how to write their own name. It is important that the children learn how to share and play together and we shall teach them this," she said.

11/6/1992